

The Southwester

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FREE!

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Schools And Nutrition Is SWNA Topic

The Mon. Oct. 24 public meeting will address the controversial question of nutrition in the schools. Health and school views will be explored.

The new federal requirement of a “local wellness policy,” for schools, junk food in coin machines, obesity in children, physical education classes and school breakfast and lunch programs are of concern.

Material from the recent Wilson High PTSA discussion on Teenagers and Nutrition will be available.

Citizen Summit IV, Nov. 19

Mayor Anthony A. Williams will host Citizen Summit IV on Sat. Nov. 19, 9 am-4 pm at the Washington Convention Center. Over the past six more than 10,000 citizens have attended the previous three Citizen Summits.

The District’s announcement of the gathering states, “Citizens, elected officials and community leaders will begin making the tough choices involved in determining the citwide policies and priorities of the District government on affordable housing, youth development, employment and economic opportunity...As in past years, the daylong Citizen Summit - the largest town hall meeting in the United States - will significantly influence decisions on the District’s annual spending priorities and legislative initiatives.”

Advance registration can be made on line by going to www.cs.eona.dc.gov. Information by phone is available at (202) 727-2823. Translation and sign-language services will be available at the summit.

Southwest residents have been active at previous summits and even conducted a Southwest Summit to share views on local issues.

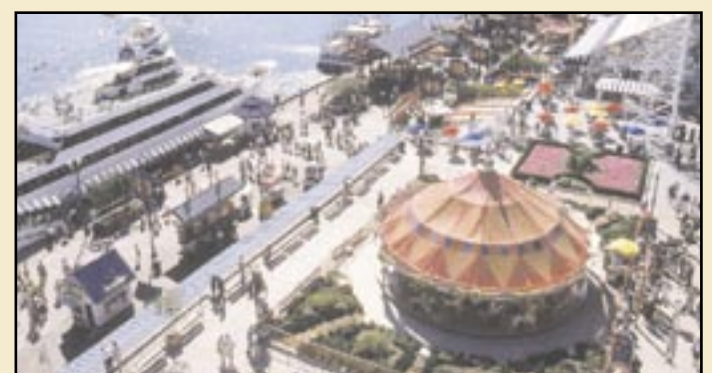
New Ballpark Neighborhood Development

A 15 + page plan has been issued for building next to the new ballpark on So. Capitol St. 7,000 - 8,000 additional parking spaces, up to 1250 hotel rooms, 1,570 to 3,000 condominiums and apartments, 1.6 million square feet of offices, and 465,000 to 785,000 square feet of retail and entertainment.

The housing would be one-third to one-half along the waterfront and the rest along Half St. SE south of M St SE.

(The plan is limited to the SE area and does not include changes, if any, for the area west of So. Capitol St. in SW.)

The plan is available to the public on the Anacostia Waterfront Corporation website www.awc.com.



These pictures of development in other cities are on page ii of the “Ballpark Neighborhood Development Plan” to illustrate possibilities for “A publicly assessable waterfront; A Vibrant mixed use district; An exciting fan experience; Interconnected open spaces and pedestrian ways; A new retail district; and A waterfront destination

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“Good News” On Waterfront Mall?

Robert Bobb of the Mayor’s office has sent an e-mail promising to update the SW neighborhood soon. His Oct. 11 message states, “I will schedule a meeting with the developers within the next two weeks and will update you’ll and Councilperson Ambrose. I am hoping we will have some good news.”

Naomi Monk initiated the exchange with an e-mail asking for “hopefully an interim or a tentative date to let Southwest know their future destiny.”

Ballpark Update, Contracting Nov. 1, 2

On Tues. Nov. 1 an update on the new Ballpark will be given the public at SE Univ., 6th and I (Eye) St. S.W. at 6:30 pm.

On Wed. Nov. 2 a full day, 8am to 6 pm, conference on business opportunities resulting from the ballpark plan will be held at the Renaissance Hotel, 999 9th St. NW. Registration at 202-299-9404 or www.WashDCSports.com.

See paid advertisement on page 11.

Arts Ball Nov. 2

The annual Arts Ball of the Capitol Hill Arts Workshop will be held at the Sewall-Belmont House, 2nd and Constitution Ave. NE, Wed. Nov. 2 from 8 pm to midnight. Tickets for \$85 can be ordered by credit card at www.chaw.org or by calling (202) 547-6839. Tickets can be bought for cash or check at the Arts Workshop, 525 7th St. SE.

A silent auction and a live auction are features of the evening. Dance music by DC Swing.

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Will The College You Choose, Choose You?

Parents of students 9th-11th grades will want to hear the college counselor speaking at the Wilson PTSA in the school library on Wed. Nov. 9 on the subject "How to Maximize Getting into the College of Your Choice."

He's sure to emphasize that colleges look for students who have been taking challenging courses, not the snap courses, and have learned the skills of doing homework and getting good grades.

The telephone number at the school is 202-282-0120. The parent help line for questions is 202-966-0628. The school web site is www.wilsonhs.org

CVS Flu Clinic Nov. 11, 10-2

The CVS pharmacy at 4th and M St. S.W. will offer flue shots to the public Fri., Nov. 11 from 10 am to 2 pm.

The Southwester

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Peace Garden Sun., Oct. 23

Dedication of the new Peace Garden at M and So. Capitol St. SW will be from 3pm to 5 pm Sun. Oct. 23.

The Peace Garden project was proposed in 2003 by ANC Commissioner Mary C. Williams, who wrote and applied for community grants. Olson Limited Partnership III, which owns the property, granted use of the site for the garden project.

(Funded in part by the Monument Mitigation Grant Fund, a joint project of Monument Realty, DC Preservation League, and the DC Historic Preservation Office, in connection with the National Trust for Historic Preservation).

Sassy Seniors At KGL

Kim Campbell (645-7454) at the King Greenleaf Rec. Center has announced programs for seniors, including: Mon. Oct. 31 Halloween Costume Party, 12 noon; Fri. Nov. 18 Fashion Show and lunch, Omni Shoreham Hotel, 11:30 am; Mon. Nov. 21, Thanksgiving Luncheon, 11:30 am.



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Southwest Community Calendar October 23 - November 30, 2005

MONTHLY

SUN. OCT. 23 Peace Garden dedication, M & Capitol So. SW, 3-5 pm

MON. OCT. 24 SWNA Public Meeting, St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 222 M St. S.W., 7:30 - 9 pm

TUES. OCT. 25 Update on Anacostia Waterfront by Uwe Brandes, St. Peter's Church, 2nd & C St. SE, 7:00 pm

THURS. OCT. 27 NARFE, SW Library, K and Wesley Pl. SW, 12:30 pm

FRI. OCT. 28 Half Day at public schools

SAT. OCT. 29 Used Book Sale, SW Library, K and Wesley Pl. SW, 11 am to 3 pm

SAT. OCT. 29 Wilson High Homecoming, Albemarle and 40th St. NW, 10:30 am

TUES. NOV. 1 Ballpark Update, Southeastern U, 6th & I (Eye) St. S.W., 6:30 pm

TUES. NOV. 1 Public meeting of Citizens Advisory Council, 415 4th St. S.W., 7 pm

WED. NOV. 2 Sports Commission Event

WED. NOV. 2 Ballpark contracting, esp. small bus., Renaissance Hotel, 999 9th St NW, 8 am to 6 pm

FRI. NOV. 11 Veterans Day Holiday

FRI. NOV. 11, CVS Flu Clinic, 10 am to 2 pm

FRI. NOV. 11 \$10 Southwest Night at Arena Stage, "Cuttin' Up", comedy about black barbershop.

TUES NOV 15, Capitol Hill Day School Open House, 210 So. Carolina Ave. SE, (see ad p. 8) 7 pm

WED. NOV. 16 AARP luncheon, St. Matthew Church, 3rd & M St. S.W., 12 noon

SAT. NOV. 19 Church breakfast open to public, Christ United Methodist Church, 900 4th St. S.W. (entrance across Wesley Pl from library), 9am - 11 am

THURS. NOV. 24 Thanksgiving Holiday

MON. NOV. 28 Public meeting of Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, St. Matthew Church, 3rd and M St. SW, 7:30-9 pm.

WEEKLY, BI-WEEKLY

SW CITIZEN'S PATROL with Officer Kenny Daniels every Tues. at 7:00 pm - meet at 4th & M St. , SW next to Waterfront Metro elevator

KOMEN TOASTMASTERS - First & Third Sat. , SW Library, 10:00 am

FIL-AM TOASTMASTERS - Second & Fourth Wed. , SW Library, 6:15 pm

SCHOOL ST. TOASTMASTERS - every Tues. , 400 Virginia Ave. , SWRoom 488, noon

COLLECTORS CLUB STAMPS - First & third Wed. , Christ United Methodist, 4th & I St. , SW, 6:30 to 7:30 pm

SW KIWANIS - First & Third Mon. , Christ United Methodist, 4th & I St. , SW, 6:30 pm

NEW SOUTHWEST TOASTMASTERS -Every Wed. GSA Bldg. , 7th & D St. , SW,Room 5009 (inside cafeteria), noon

LABYRINTH WALK - First & Third Wed. , Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I St. , SW 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Please submit calendar items for the next issue by Wed. November 2

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Dancing the Merengue was the theme of the school-wide celebration of Hispanic Heritage month at Amidon Elementary School in SW. A pinada was awarded to one student in each group competing in the Merengue contest.

Francisco Cruz, who represents The Dominican Republic at the Organization of American States (OAS), spoke to the students, telling the story of the history of that country and the hardships people have had while seeking freedom from oppression.

Hispanic Heritage Month At Amidon Elementary



Students played the Merengue on stringed instruments at the start of the program.



At right, Principal John Goudeaux left, greets Francisco Cruz before the latter's speech at Amidon, as an English translation was read.



Classes from pre-K to 6th grade - and two groups of adult staff members — competed in dancing the Merengue.



“Living Classroom” School Cruises

Five-hour river cruises on a schooner are being held by the Living Classroom Foundation, under a grant from the Anacostia Waterfront Corporation.

Amidon 5th Graders will cruise from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm Tues. Nov. 1. 6th graders will cruise on Tues. Nov. 8.

Bowen Elementary School students cruised on October 11th.

Used Book Sale At SW Library

Sat. Oct. 29 from 11 am to 4:30 pm (rain or shine) is the time for a book sale at the Southwest Branch Library, 920 Wesley Place SW (near K and 3rd St. SW).

Half of the proceeds will benefit Gulf Coast libraries that were devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

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RIVER PARK FRIENDS NEEDS YOUR DONATIONS NOW.



In 2005, River Park Friends has supported the following activities in Southwest D. C.:

- South Washington/West of the River Family Strengthening Collaborative for a Summer Reading Camp for about 25 children to participate in relevant field trips, and other activities;
- EmmaUS Learning Center for a 6-week summer enrichment program for about 15 students;
- OurPlaceDC which supports women returning to the community from incarceration;
- Children's Environmental Health Network, providing a scholarship for a student to develop talents in environmental and cultural areas;
- Matthew Henson Earth Conservation Center

We have made other funding commitments and expect additional meritorious applications. We have had to defer or reduce funding of some applications.



WE NEED YOUR HELP NOW to maintain our outreach to and support for these various organizations that are building good citizens in Southwest D. C.

Please make check payable to River Park Friends (a tax-deductible donation) and send to: River Park Friends, Coralie Farlee, President, 389 O Street, S. W., Washington, D. C. phone: 202-554-4407. We will provide you with a statement indicating that you have donated to this nonprofit charitable and educational 501(c)(3) organization.

Name _____

Address _____

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Religious Activities In SW

ST. DOMINIC CHURCH

St. Dominic Church at 630 E St. S.W. is conducting a series of illustrated lectures on the Bible and Spiritual Life on the third Thurs. each month through April, 2006 from 12:45 to 1:15 pm in the parish meeting room. The first two lectures, by Fr. Stephen D. Ryan, O.P., Dominican House of Studies, have been on Eve. The Nov. 17 lecture will be entitled "Meeting the Matriarchs: Sarah". For information (202) 554-7863.

A St. Cecilia Sing with wind instruments, guitars, bass and the 1887 Roosevelt Organ under the St. Cecilia Rose Window, will be held Sat St. Dominic Church, Nov. 19 at 4:30 pm, followed by the 5:15 Mass. Music Leader will be Tom Parker, principal organist of the church and artistic director of the Folk Choir Resource Center, Inc.

An organ recital at 5 pm Tues Nov. 2 free and open to the public.

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A Jazz Vespers will be held at Christ United Methodist Church, 900 4th St. S.W., Sun. Nov. 6 at 5 pm. The Rev. Jason L. Robinson, pastor, will officiate, with a reception following the Vespers. Donations are requested, \$15 for adults and \$5 for children ages 12 and under. For

information: (202) 554-9117)

The next monthly public breakfast by men of Christ United Methodist Church will be from 9 am to 11 am, Sat. Nov. 19. Donation: \$5.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

On Sun. Oct. 30 St. Augustine's will join with St. Matthew Lutheran Church in a Reformation Sunday program. A Thanksgiving Food Drive is planned with other Southwest churches and community groups.

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

After celebrating the 130th Church Anniversary with a week of service and ending with a banquet on Sunday, October 2, 2005, Friendship invites all to Bible study on Tuesday at 7:30 P.M.; Wednesday, Noon to 12:45 P.M., along with a light snack for anyone attending during their lunch hour; Friday at 6:30 P.M. and Women's Day Celebration on Sunday, November 27, at 11:00 A.M. The Reverend Jacqueline Thompson of Shiloh Family Life Center of Washington, DC will be the guest preacher for this celebration.

If there are questions or you need additional information, please feel free to contact us at 202-488-7417.

Seniors Invited To Lunch At Labyrinth Nov 2

LABYRINTH WORKSHOP, LUNCHEON AND WALK FOR SENIORS AT WESTMINSTER

What is a labyrinth and how might it help you in your spiritual life? These are questions that will be addressed by Rev. Ruth Hamilton at a free workshop and luncheon on Wed., Nov. 2, 11 am-1 pm at Westminster Presbyterian Church (4th & I (Eye) St. S.W., across from Amidon Elementary).

The labyrinth, laid out as the tile design on the floor of the church sanctuary, is a spiral path that leads to a center and out again. It is an ancient spiritual tool that has been used by many cultures and religions throughout the world.

Southwest seniors are particularly invited to this workshop and walk, which will take into consideration some of the physical realities of senior life and also the spiritual issues known to those in the latter half of life.

A lite luncheon will be served. For more information contact Rev. Ruth Hamilton at 202-484-7700 or rwh@westminsterdc.org.

The Westminster labyrinth continues to be open to the public on the first and third Wednesdays of every month from 7-9 pm. Adults are welcome to come, meditate, pray and walk at their own leisure.

Rev. Martha Clark At St. A's

Episcopal Priest Rev. Martha Clark will serve a year-long Interim ministry at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church at 6th and Maine Ave. S.W.

Her other activities include a consultant on HIV/AIDS to the U. S. Centers for Disease Control, and several assign-

ments with theatres and arts education in the area.

She has served overseas and as Associate Rector of St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, Dupont Circle. She has three sons.

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YES, REGISTER ME ! (Registration by Oct. 30 will help)

Prepare a binder for me. Put together my Prayer Journal. Order my copy of The Prayer of Jabez by Bruce Wilkinson, and reserve my place at the table!

Name _____

Daytime phone: () _____

I realize that there is no charge for attending the five-week series, but am enclosing a check to help with costs.



Delta Tau Delta fraternity of American University posed for the camera while doing landscaping work at Amidon Elementary School in Southwest.

AU's Delta Tau Delta At Amidon ELS

By Robert Marshall

Delta Tau Delta Fraternity of American University has worked with Amidon Elementary School for several years through the "Adopt-a-School" program. For several weekends each semester, brothers of Delta Tau Delta help Amidon's custodial staff with landscaping duties. They hope to extend their service into the classroom.

During their Sat. Oct. 1 visit to the school, Frank Restagno, philanthropy chair of the AU chapter, told this reporter,

"I like the landscaping work we do for Amidon and I'm working with Amidon's principal to send brothers into classroom to work with students one-on-one." Chapter vice president Mitch Calhoun added that he looks forward to affecting Amidon students on a personal level. "Philanthropy is a central focus of our chapter," he said.

These unselfish, public-minded citizens deserve a special "Thanks" from the entire Southwest community for their efforts - past, present and future - on behalf of the children of our Southwest "village."

Views Against A New Group On Community Benefits

[Ed. Note: On p. 10 of the Sep. '05 Southwester we ran an article written by a representative of local residents who had a series of meetings "to discuss the types of community benefits our community would want to negotiate with developers coming into the area." The discussions included whether a new organization should be formed.

Following are excerpts from a statement by Naomi Monk in opposition to a new organization].

[The] "Collaboration work sessions provided a valuable service to about 20 persons who attended regularly. Attendees learned about how best to negotiate and organize while they found a common consensus of what Southwest and Near Southeast residents wanted for better development for residents in Southwest and Near Southeast.

"[Here is] the view that does not recommend a new community-for-benefits group":

"This proposed community group's mission is a duplication of money, man-hours and time of dedicated groups and

agencies - persons that have and continue to address community benefits".

"The records show that Mayor Anthony Williams, DC Planning and Economic Development Office, Anacostia Waterfront Corporation (AWC), DC Council Members, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC), and new ANC Committees, Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA)...have meetings constantly for residents to state the community benefits that they wish."....

"In addition one can write letters, call on the phone, e-mail, ask organizations to meet with their group and have respectful meetings to address the benefits the group would like to promote."...

"There are many free programs one can attend to improve one's ability to fight crime, obtain better jobs, obtain better education, obtain better benefits, work for better community development, enhance culture, maintain better health, and meet other social needs in Southwest and Near Southeast."

"Some of these programs are participate in the following: DC Planning and

Development meetings, DC Council members hearings, ANC meetings and join the new ANC committees, SWNA youth, scholarship, neighborhood newspaper, Southwest website and other community programs."

"KidSafe offers GED, job training, after school and other adult programs. Southwest Community House offers job training programs, food and clothing assistance. Southwest/East of the River Family Strengthening Collaborative is a conduit for many low income family assistance programs. Arena Stage offers youth programs. King Greenleaf Recreation Center offers many activities and programs for children, adults and seniors. The Metropolitan Police Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) provides funding and many services for youths such as summer camp for 100 youths, uniforms for school children."

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Police Get Pat On The Back



Commander Diane Groomes.

By Lt. Charnette Robinson

Sat. Oct. 2 was a very special day — Officer Appreciation Day — for the police officers assigned to the First District of the Metropolitan Police Department, with headquarters at 415 - 4th St. S.W.

On the grounds at 415 - 4th St. S.W., with 175 officers in attendance, MPO Jeff Clay prepared hot dogs, hamburgers, steaks, fish and chicken and other delicacies.

Citizen's Advisory Council members Alice Valentine and Irv Gamza pitched in

to support this initiative and also provide assistance with serving the officers.

First District Commander Diane Groomes personally thanked all the officers for their dedication to the department and their outstanding performance during the International Monetary Fund detail and the Crime Initiative weekend. Addressing the officers, Commander Groomes said, "This is the first of many Officer Appreciation Days. I will continue to recognize officers for their many efforts improving the quality of life for all residents."

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Home Discussions on Foreign Policy

A discussion group on Foreign Policy will continue in 2006 in Southwest D.C. Spaces are available. The peer-led discussions are based on eight topics in "Great Decisions" study guides (\$15.00) developed by the Foreign Policy Association, NYC (since 1955).

We typically meet the 4th Wed. from Jan. through Aug.; topics and materials will be available from FPA in early Jan.

To get more information or to sign up, contact: Coralie Farlee, 389 O St. SW (Where the discussions have been held) phone: 554-4407, e-mail: cfarlee@mindspring.com.

Grocery Shopping Helps Schools

As in past years Safeway and Giant make donations to schools based on grocery sales between now and April, 2006. To designate your school - or up to 3 schools - you have to sign up by phone, on line, or in the store.

For Safeway you register by phoning 1-800-801-4973 or going to the web site www.escrip.com.

For Giant call 1-877-275-2758 or go to www.giantfood.com/aplus.

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(Please Note: availability of properties for sale may change on a daily basis)

Attention Sellers:

The market is still Hot, Hot in our neighborhood, and the inventory of apartments and townhouses is very low. I am working with many qualified buyers who are looking for SW Waterfront properties. If you are thinking of Selling** Now is the time. Please call me at 202-554-5317 for a private interview.

For more information – call 202-215-1640 or 202-554-5317

fall sale

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Rotisserie Chicken On Barracks Row

A new restaurant - "Chicken Tortilla" - has come to 1100 Eighth St. S.E. a block from the Navy Yard. It specializes in "Peruvian Rotisserie Charcoal Broiled Chicken and The Burraso, (Big Burrito)" A whole chicken with two sides is \$12.95. A half chicken is \$7.95 and quarter chicken under \$6.

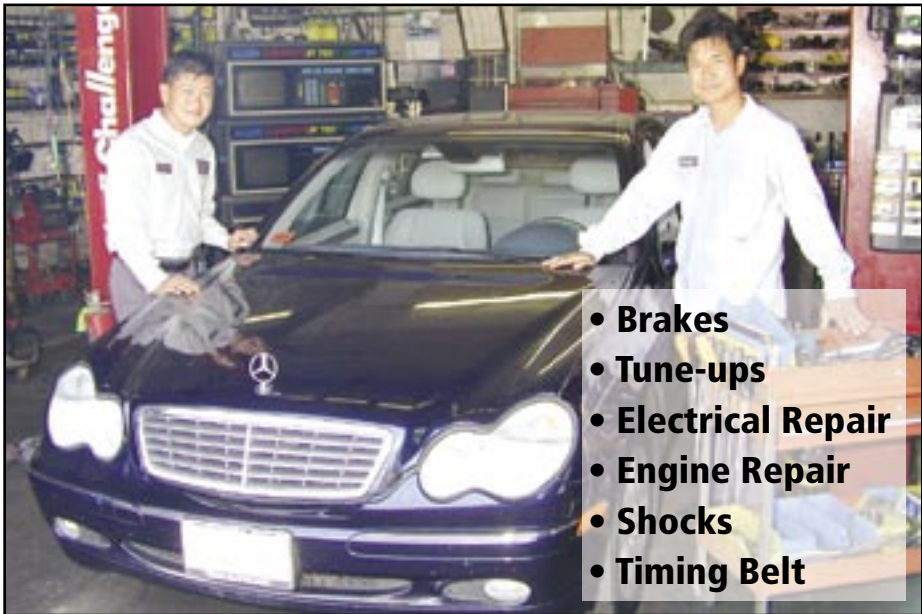


Fresh chicken turning in the rotisserie, above, and later, golden brown.

"Chicken Tortilla" is on Eighth St. SE near the Navy Yard.

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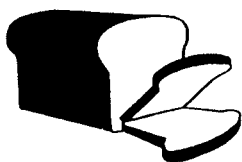
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Thelma Jones Retires From World Bank

The huge atrium of the World Bank headquarters in Washington, D.C., was the setting for a gala retirement party for Southwest activist Thelma D. Jones.

After joining the World Bank in 1972 Ms. Jones fashioned a career that included evaluation, finance, human resources and finally a senior staff member in the office of the Executive Director.

In a staff profile by John Mulaa of the World Bank, Ms. Jones is credited with helping create "a Bank-D.C. High Schools summer jobs program, initially with Cardozo High School," initiating



Left to right, Ian Goldin, Vice President, External Affairs, World Bank, under whom Ms. Jones worked; Thelma Jones and SW ANC Commissioner David Sobelsohn.



Left to right: Thelma Jones, her son Jamal Jones and her mother Lizzie Banks Harper, who visited from South Carolina with other family members to attend the retirement party.

"the Howard University Ofield Dukes-World Bank internship program under which students from the university's communications department intern in the Bank's External Affairs Department," and "active participation in the launching of the Nelson Mandela Institution (NMI) for Knowledge Building and the Advancement of Science and Technology in Sub-Saharan Africa," among other accomplishments.

Ms. Jones, a former President of SWNA, is still an active member of SWNA's Youth Activities Task Force and attends board meetings of SWNA as a member of the Advisory Board.

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Health Fair Draws Crowds

A crowd of nearly a thousand visited the 36 exhibit tables and trailers at King Greenleaf Recreation Center in SW to get information, health tests, food and entertainment for the fourth annual health fair co-sponsored by Georgetown University Hospital and the So. Washington/West of the River Family Strengthening Collaborative of 1501 Half St. S.W.

Food was provided by the Salvation Army, with music by "Grace" and rap music by Antoine Rhodes. CVS, Safeway,

Coca Cola, Borders Books and Georgetown University provided prizes for a raffle.

The 36 participating organizations gave information on diabetes, glaucoma, HIV, nutrition, services for seniors, youth and infants, domestic violence, substance abuse, tobacco control, fitness, kidney transplants, employment opportunities, blood pressure analysis, child abuse and neglect, holistic therapy, dental services, youth entrepreneur opportunities and insurance.

Speakers included Council Member Sharon Ambrose, Georgetown University Hospital VP Regina Knox Woods, and Rev. Ruth Hamilton.

The South Washington/West of the River Family Strengthening Collaborative grew out of the need for a monitor for the DC Dept. of Children and Youth Services when it was placed under court-ordered receivership in 1996. Since 1996 seven collaboratives city-wide have been formed.



Barracks Row Fest Was Oct. 1

A festive day on Eighth St. SE, Sat., Oct. 1, marked the recognition of Barracks Row as a Main Street development. Here are a few sights from the event.



Barracks Row Street Festival



UMD Students Study SW History

Students in the graduate program in historic preservation at the University of MD, College Park, have been interviewing S.W. residents and researching the history of the eastern edge of Near Southwest called Buzzard Point. They have photographed historic buildings between 2nd St. S.W. and So. Capitol St. S.W. and from M St. S.W. to the Anacostia River.

The students report that "In addition to reading printed sources of information about Southwest history and studying old photographs, building permits, maps, plans and deeds, the team is interviewing residents to collect both their memories of "days gone by" and their opinions on what makes the area a special place to live today."

They say that in December they will present their findings to the Southwest neighborhood. They may be contacted at buzzard_point_team@hotmail.com.

Historic Bldgs. In SW Include Housing

By Vanessa Ruffin-Colbert

[Ed. Note: The 17 sidewalk displays in the SW Heritage Trail refer to many historic buildings, including Wheat Row on 4th St. S.W. and hundred year old houses on Carrolsburg Pl and Half St. S.W. which were called "Sanitary Housing."]

The historical facts of "Sanitary Housing" in Southwest are;

A philanthropic movement in the late 1800's whose interest to improve the quality of life of residents were responsible for this movement of Sanitary Housing Construction. Sanitarians as they were familiarly called, became an important part of the history of affordable housing and standardized building codes as we know them today.

On July 6, 1904 the First building permit for Sanitary Housing Construction in Southwest was issued to the Washington Sanitary Housing Company [WSHC] to build Seventeen (17) houses on Van Street S.W. [At that time Van Street existed on Square 0545 between M & N Street and 3rd & 4th Street SW]. The Van Street development represented a powerful strike, both symbolic and actual, against the forces of bad housing in the Washington, D.C.

The block on which the houses were built contained some of the worst housing in the city, including a row of frame, single-story shanties which had been erected during the Civil War as temporary barracks and were afterwards divided into 15, two-room houses, each containing one or more families. In 1904 they were crowded with, in George Miller Sternberg's words "colored people of the lowest class" and had no indoor plumbing.

The sanitary flats facing this row, each had two or three rooms; a bathroom with a bathtub, hot and cold water and a toilet; a kitchen with a range and sink; a stove in the front room, and even closets.

By law the shanty owners were required to provide water and sewer connections to their buildings once the WSHC had brought these utilities to the street. The owners quickly determined that the structures were not worth the expense and had them demolished.

The WSIC (Washington Sanitary Improvement Company) and the WSHC (Washington Sanitary Housing Company) would be responsible for 15 building permits for the construction of; 233 (dwelling, flat, apartment); utilizing 8 city squares (blocks); over a 35 year; between July 6, 1904 and May 18, 1939.

Watch for more information on the History of Sanitary Housing in the Southwester. You could be living in a piece of this important history in our neighborhood.

A Busy Day For Outdoor Jazz

A bright autumn day greeted the audience at the nine hour outdoor jazz concert at the park at 4th and I St. S.W. An ever-changing lineup of jazz artists took turns on the temporary stage under the trees. The familiar menu of fried fish and chicken served at the local Friday Night Jazz concerts was for sale nearby on the grounds of Westminster Presbyterian Church, which sponsored the outdoor concert.



Second Baptist Gospel Fair

Hundreds of school supplies were distributed at the street fair conducted by Second Baptist church at First and M St. S.W.

Popular music and gospel music filled the air.



SWNA Benefit A Success

by Jean Macdonald

The benefit for the SWNA was a great success and a lot of fun. The Antiques and Collectibles Show was a great draw for neighbors and friends on Sat. morning, Oct. 1. The Westminster

Presbyterian Church was a welcoming and perfect site to showcase the affair.

The Adam Weschler and Sons Auction House and Appraisers were stars of the affair. Mr. Tom Weschler was busier than his cousin John, who appraised U.S. coins, jewelry and watches. Participants brought china, art, furniture, glass and silver for Mr. Tom Weschler, who could give them some history and the value of their pieces. There were many happy people, but also a few who learned that their treasures were not so valuable, except to themselves. Everyone appreciated the expertise of the two men and were glad to learn about their possessions.

The Silent Auction comprised a range of offerings — from Five Guys hamburgers to one of Dr. Dorothy Height's famous hats. That wonderful donation went to Thelma Jones who planned to give it to her mother.

There were about 70 different items to bid on and they were very tempting!

Dinner at H2O, cruises on the Odyssey and Spirit Ships, pre-theatre dinner at Pier 7 with tickets to Arena Stage, a Tiffany style lampshade made by the Rev. Brian Hamilton, massages, dinners, artwork, fitness offerings, Washington tours — all made up a marvelous array of options which were hard to resist. Ellen Winship encouraged people to stop at the bargain table of smaller donations, another place to find a gift or treasure. Our neighbors and friends were very generous!

The abundant food was provided by Washington Cable's Perry Klein, his wife Sue, and helpers Afifa Klouj and Sherry Lewis. Volunteers included Bill Brawner and Ron McBee collecting admissions, Beryl Rice and Niles White for the appraisals tickets,

Katy Dietrich and Tom Heinemann doing yeoman service on the Silent Auctions payments, Dale MacIver and Perry Klein who did the catalogue, and the tickets, and many others who helped make the whole morning a fun and welcoming event.

It is hoped that this very enjoyable morning will become an annual event for the community, only getting bigger and better each year.

The benefit was chaired by Barbara Murray and Jean Macdonald.



New Ballpark Utility Relocation

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

The DC Sports and Entertainment Commission (DCSEC) has reached an agreement with the Potomac Electric Power Company (PEPCO) for the relocation, or removal of electrical lines within the bounds of the new ballpark site. Additionally, DCSEC will relocate lines for the other major utilities, including: potable water, storm and sanitary sewers (DC WASA), natural gas (Washington Gas), telecommunications (Verizon) and cable television (Comcast).

WHEN WILL IT HAPPEN?

Utility relocation started in September and may last until January, 2006 in the areas between N Street, Potomac Avenue, South Capital Street, SE, respectively.

HOW DOES IT AFFECT ME?

The DC Sports and Entertainment Commission is committed to working with and protecting the community from any impacts of utility relocation.

- No service interruptions are expected.
- No more traffic than currently exists in the area is expected.
- There will be intermittent road closures within the relocation area boundaries.
- A minimum of dust and debris will be created but will not be noticeable to nearby residents.

WILL LOCAL CONTRACTORS BE ELIGIBLE FOR WORK ON THIS PROJECT?

Yes. DCSEC is committed to hiring Local, Small and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (LSDBE's) for all subcontracted work and to hiring DC residents. Approximately 20 percent of the PEPCO work will be performed by their personnel. The remainder of the work was competitively bid and is being performed by certified LSDBE contractors.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

DCSEC will work with the community to ensure that utility relocation and the eventual construction of the new Washington Nationals ballpark goes as smoothly as possible. The numbers below are direct contact numbers to report immediate concerns regarding utility relocation or to receive project updates.

New Ballpark Construction Hotline: 202.608.1112

Emergencies: 911

Utility contact information

PEPCO: 1.877.PEPCO.62, www.PEPCO.com

Verizon: 800.275.2355, www.Verizon.com

Washington Gas: 703.750.1400, www.WasGas.com

DC Water & Sewer Authority: 202.787.2000, www.DCWASA.com

Cable

Comcast: 202.635.5100, www.Comcast.com

RCN: 800.746.4726, www.RCN.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

- New DC Ballpark Community Update, Tuesday, November 1st, 6:30-8:30pm, Southeastern University, 6th & I St., SW
- DC Ballpark Business & Economic Opportunity Conference, Wednesday, November 2nd, 8am-6pm, Renaissance Hotel, 999 9th St., NW. For conference details and registration call 202.299.9404.

For more information call the New Ballpark Construction Hotline at (202) 608-1112



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Reminder: The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA) will meet on Monday, October 24th, at St. Matthews Church, 3rd and M Street SW, from 7:30 to 9 PM.



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